

amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lamb would move to amend the Vickers amendment. (Read Lamb amendment found on page 1420 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I offer this amendment for a very specific reason. Last summer, as Senator Vickers mentioned, I chaired a subcommittee task force, I guess you would call it, on this subject and one of the concerns out there is that the State Board of Education would like to really make the ESUs a subsidiary of the Board of Education, be a group in between the State Board of Education and the local district. So I am asking that in this task force that the number of people be reduced from 12 to 10 and that the Department of Education appoint 2 members instead of 4 members, so that they have 2 of a 10-member task force instead of 4 members of a 12-member task force. I don't think that we need to have too much representation by the Department of Education on this committee. I think it is better that we have more legislators, that we have more people from the general public, rather than so many people in the case of the original amendment, one-third of the people being appointed by the Commissioner of Education. I don't think that is appropriate. So I offered the amendment, cut down the committee from 12 to 10, and cut down the number of people that the Commissioner appoints from 4 to 2.

PRESIDENT: Any discussion on the Lamb amendment? Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Well, yes, Mr. President, I am going to oppose the Lamb amendment and ask the rest of you to oppose it as well. In the first place, I would like for you to read the study. It doesn't say anything about the Department of Education, it says the State Board of Education, number one. Number two, it does say that the 4 members shall be appointed from the general public, not from the Department of Education. The other thing I think that needs to be said is that, Senator Lamb, it is absolutely true. There is a lot of paranoia out among the ESUs folks about what the Department of Education might and may not do to them, simply because of the fact that there is also a lot of misunderstanding among those ESU folks that they really are a part of the total educational system